

Amendments to the Specification:

The following paragraphs refer to amendments to the specification, wherein deleted text is indicated with strikethrough font or within double brackets and new text is underlined.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 24 and continuing to page 8, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

An ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus of the present invention includes an ultrasonic probe driving section which drives an ultrasonic probe for transmitting an ultrasonic transmission wave to an object to be measured including a fluid portion in which fluid moves, a receiving section which amplifies an ultrasonic reflected wave obtained when the ultrasonic transmission wave reflects from the object to be measured and received by the ultrasonic probe, a phase detecting section which phase-detects the ultrasonic reflected wave, ~~and a~~ computing section which obtains the moving speed of the object to be measured at a plurality of measuring positions of the object to be measured in accordance with the phase-detected signal respectively and obtains deformation amounts and/or elastic moduli between the measuring positions of the object to be measured in accordance with the moving speed, a fluid determining section which determines the fluid portion in the object to be measured in accordance with the phase-detected signal, and an image data generating section which generates image data for two-dimensionally image-displaying the deformation amounts and/or elastic moduli of the object to be measured in a region other than the fluid portion by using the information which is determined by the fluid determining section.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 26 and continuing to page 9, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

In the case of a preferable embodiment, an ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus further includes a ~~filter~~ filter section for dividing the phase-detected signal into a frequency component

higher than a predetermined value and a frequency component equal to or lower than the predetermined value and selectively inputting signals having divided frequency components to the fluid determining section and the computing section.

Replace the paragraph on page 15, lines 1-3 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG 6 is an illustration showing a relation between measuring positions and object tissues for obtaining elastic ~~moduluses~~ moduli;

Replace the paragraph on page 22, lines 8-20 with the following amended paragraph:

When the ultrasonic reflected wave 65 obtained from the fluid 61 is overlapped with the ultrasonic reflected wave 66 obtained from the blood vessel wall 64 and living-body tissue 62 or it is difficult to separate the former from the latter. ~~the~~ The angle θ of the ultrasonic beam 63 from the traveling direction of the fluid 61 is decreased by the delay time control section 5. Thereby, it is possible to increase the Doppler shift of an ultrasonic reflected wave obtained from the fluid 61. Moreover, as shown in FIG 4, it is allowed to group the ultrasonic transducer group of the ultrasonic probe 2 so that directions emitted by the ultrasonic beam 63 differ.

Replace the paragraph on page 39, lines 3-24 with the following amended paragraph:

Furthermore, it is allowed to change a unit area for calculating an elastic modulus in a real-time display mode or off-line display mode. For example, to display elastic ~~moduluses~~ moduli of various portions of a living-body tissue in the real-time display mode, it is allowed to lower a spatial resolution by increasing the unit area for calculating an elastic modulus and to display elastic ~~moduluses~~ moduli of various portions of the living-body tissue in the off-line display mode, it is allowed to raise the spatial resolution by decreasing the unit area for calculating an elastic modulus. Thus, it is possible to perform stable image display not easily being influenced by a change of contact states between noise or ultrasonic probe and a living body in the real-time display mode and it becomes easy to move a measurement region and

search a purposed portion by moving an ultrasonic probe in accordance with a displayed image. Moreover, even if a test subject performs an unnecessary operation, because a displayed image does not easily greatly change, it is not necessary to compel a strict stationary state from the test subject and it is possible to avoid the test subject from providing an unfavorable stress.

Replace the paragraph on page 41, lines 10-18 with the following amended paragraph:

An example of image display in the ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus 50 is described below. Figure 9 is a schematic view of an image 43 showing a result of examining a carotid artery by using the ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus 50. In the case of this example, the elastic modulus of a blood vessel wall of the carotid artery is measured to search a micro calcified portion in the blood vessel wall. The calcification of the blood vessel wall is typical hardening of arteries.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 44, line 17 and continuing to page 45, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 10 shows a screen 30 when measuring an elastic modulus similarly to the case of Figure 9 for comparison and showing the whole of the elastic characteristic map 46 40 with a gradation or chroma corresponding to the value of an elastic modulus. Figure 10 shows two-dimensional cross-section images 31 and 32 of a living body in accordance with the B mode in the left half and right half. As shown in Figure 10, in the elastic characteristic map 46 40, the elastic modules of a region corresponding to the blood 35 is also shown with a gradation or chroma in addition to a region corresponding to the blood-vessel rear wall 36 and the boundary between the blood-vessel rear wall 36 and the blood 35 is not clear. Therefore, a specific portion of the elastic modulus in the blood-vessel rear wall 36 cannot be easily specified.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 46, line 23 and continuing to page 47, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 11, an ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus 51 is provided with an ultrasonic transmitting/receiving section 3', delay time control section 5', phase detecting section 6', fluid determining section 9', and computing section 10' instead of the ultrasonic transmitting/receiving section 3, delay time control section 5, phase detecting section 6, fluid determining section 9, and computing section 10' 10 of the first embodiment. Moreover, the ultrasonic diagnostic apparatus 51 is provided with switch sections 73a and 73b.